## BEFORE THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* TED LACROIX, Charging Party Cause No. 0034010271 ) ) ORDER AFFIRMING VS. NOTICE OF DISMISSAL JERRY McVAY, ) Respondent. \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* The above-captioned matter came before the Montana Human Rights Commission (Commission) on July 17, 2003. The Commission considered Charging Party's objection to the Notice of Dismissal of his complaint. Oral argument was not requested. After reviewing the record, the Commission concludes that the Human Rights Bureau properly dismissed the matter. A person alleging discrimination, under the Montana Human Rights Act, bears the burden of establishing that he or she is a member of a protected class. Admin. R. Mont. 24.9.602 In this matter, the Board concludes the record supports a determination that Charging Party was not a member of a protected class. Therefore, Charging Party failed to establish a prima facie case of unlawful discrimination on the basis of disability or that he had been retaliated against on the basis of disability. See Mont. Code Ann. § 49-2-504(1)(a); Admin. R. Mont. 24.9.610 Additionally, the investigator correctly found there had been no unlawful retaliation in this matter. Consequently, the Commission determines there was no abuse of discretion by the Human Rights Bureau in its issuance of a Notice of Dismissal. Admin. R. Mont. 24.9.1714(3) Charging Party will have 90 days after the receipt of this order to petition a district court in the district where the alleged violation occurred for the appropriate relief. *Mont. Code Ann.* § 49-2-509(5) and Admin. R. Mont. 24.9.1714(5) If Charging Party fails to commence a civil action within 90 days, the claim is time barred. Id. IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that Charging Party's objection is overruled and notice of dismissal is affirmed. Dated this day of July 2003

> Mr. Gary Hindoien, Chair Montana Human Rights Commission

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

|       | The undersign      | employee  | of the | Human  | Rights   | Bureau    | certifies | that a   | true   | copy  | of the  |
|-------|--------------------|-----------|--------|--------|----------|-----------|-----------|----------|--------|-------|---------|
| forgo | ing Human Right    | s Commiss | sion O | RDER w | as serve | ed on the | following | ng perso | ons by | y U.S | . mail, |
| posta | ge prepaid, on Jul | ly, 20    | 03.    |        |          |           |           |          |        |       |         |

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Montana Human Rights Bureau